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COUNTRY	Eastern German	REPORT NO.	25X1
TOPIC Military Information from the Dessau-Aken Training Area			
EVALUATION	25X1	PLACE OBTAINED	25X1
DATE OF CONTENT 1 to 15 September 1952			
DATE OBTAINED	25X1	DATE PREPARED	10 October 1952 25X1
REFERENCES			
PAGES	2	ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)	25X1
REMARKS			
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25X1
- During the night of 14 September 1952, the bulk of the engineer unit from Bernburg and their tanks left the engineer camp west of Dessau (M 52/E 17) toward Aken. [redacted] that this unit was moving to a new training area in the vicinity of Barby (M 52/D 28). [redacted]
[redacted] The mortar unit quartered in the neighboring camp had left in the same direction on 10 September. *
 - During the period from 1 to 11 September, the barracks installation in Rosslau quartered about 1,000 men who wore red-bordered black epaulets with engineer insignia. [redacted] all the troops seen there were engineers. [redacted]
 - During the period from 1 to 11 September, about 2,500 engineers were observed at the engineer training site on the Elbe River south of Brannbach and west of Rosslau. Most of the engineers were quartered in low wooden buildings, and the remainder occupied tents which had a capacity of about 25 men each. Bridge construction was not observed but only training in the handling of pontoon ferries. [redacted]
 - During the period from 1 to 11 September, 600 to 800 engineers were observed quartered in low wooden buildings and tents at the engineer training site on the Elbe River south of Rietzmeck, west of Brannbach. At 4 p.m. on 3 September, a bridge was built of three-section pontoons. Ferries consisting of 4 to 6 pontoons were observed. Construction work proceeded at a rapid pace, however, the individual construction squads were concentrated too much.
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25X1
- 25X1

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- 2 -

5. During the period from 1 to 11 September, the engineer training site on the Elbe River east of Aken was occupied by 500 to 600 engineers, who were quartered in low wooden buildings and tents. Mostly ferries were built and the handling of these ferries was practiced.

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- 25X1 ** [redacted] Comment. The engineer unit of 2,000 men wearing red-bordered black epaulets is reported for the first time as being quartered in the barracks installation in Rossau. If the unit had been reported as having a lesser personnel strength, it might have been the 121st (?) Gds Engr Bn of the 7th Gds Tank Div. However, prior to July 1952, this battalion was believed to be in the engineer training area of the Third Gds Mecz Army in Wittenberg. In early August, the battalion was training in the Battkau area. It has not been determined that the unit returned to Rossau, nor has any observation been received on its present whereabouts. [redacted] observed an engineer unit in the barracks installation in Rossau. However, it appears more probable that a supply unit of the 36th Pan Bridge Regt of the GDFG which was quartered in a camp south-east of the barracks installation during the summer months had moved to the barracks installation.

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- 25X1 *** [redacted] Comment. According to paragraphs 3, 4 and 5 of the present report, about 3,500 engineers were assembled in the engineer training area around Dessau-Aken in early September. Most of the motor vehicles [redacted] reported for the first time. Some of them belong to the GDFG. Although the strength figures may have been exaggerated, about three engineer battalions of the Eighth Gds Army besides the unidentified **engineer** regiment of the GDFG reported in paragraph 1 must be **assumed to be** assembled in the Dessau-Aken area. The individual **engineer units** of this army have not been identified.

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